

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 9

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to reinstate local air quality contracts.

RANDOLPH

January 14, 2009 , read first time and referred to Committee on Energy and Environmental Affairs.



Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 9

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to reconsider the termination of local air quality contracts.

Whereas, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management has contracted with local units of government for air quality programs; and

Whereas, these IDEM contracts for air quality programs are not being renewed in 2009; and

Whereas, for some time, these contracts were in place with local air agencies serving the cities of Hammond, Anderson, Gary, Indianapolis, Evansville, Vigo County, and the surrounding areas; and

Whereas, these local air agencies routinely respond to citizen complaints about open burning, odors, and fugitive dust; regulate asbestos; conduct inspections and provide technical assistance to local businesses; monitor air quality in the community; issue air quality alerts and provide public

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education and outreach about health issues related to air quality; and

Whereas, these local agencies have provided prompt service to citizens and local businesses; and

Whereas, localities in Indiana must continue to strive to meet federal air quality standards to ensure public health is maintained and to encourage economic development; and

Whereas, the most efficient and direct way to facilitate appropriate environmental response, protection, and public education is to utilize local agencies when agencies are available; and

Whereas, local environmental agencies create jobs, promote community partnerships, and serve the public interest.

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate hereby urges the
2 Indiana Department of Environmental Management to reinstate local
3 air quality contracts and expand the program to new areas of the state
4 if opportunities would arise.

5 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate is directed to
6 transmit a copy of this resolution to the commissioner of the Indiana
7 Department of Environmental Management.

